## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Attention: News Director For Immediate Release November 21, 2006

**Contact: Sandy Focken** (502) 582-5911

A SOUTH

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DAVID L. HUBER UNITED STATES ATTORNEY Western District of Kentucky

\*

## FLORIDA MAN SENTENCED FOR SOPHISTICATED \$2 MILLION MARIJUANA GROW OPERATION

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **DALE SNODDY**, **a/k/a CHARLES LAWRENCE**, age 53, of 1348 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida, **was sentenced** in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, for possession with intent to distribute marijuana and conspiracy to manufacture 1000 or more marijuana plants.

Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Snoddy** to 3 years and 1 month imprisonment, plus 3 years supervised release following incarceration. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system**.

**Snoddy** pled guilty and admitted that from on or about and between January 1, 2001, and February 2, 2006, in Simpson County, Kentucky, he conspired with other co-defendants in this case to knowingly and intentionally manufacture 5538 marijuana plants which has an equivalency of 553.88 kilograms of marijuana and is worth at least \$1,954,000.00 on the street, and that on or about February 2, 2006, he knowingly and intentionally possessed with intent to distribute marijuana.

On November 9, 2005, law enforcement officers, executing a federal narcotics search warrant at 780 Craft Road, Franklin, Kentucky, discovered a sophisticated marijuana grow operation. This

marijuana grow operation was completely concealed underground and was accessed through an elevator in a shower stall of a barn. The marijuana grow operation was powered through a generator, and it had separate grow rooms and a separate drying room. Grow equipment, including lights, fans, ballasts, chemical fertilizers, water tanks, and an air conditioning unit were present. Agents recovered approximately 750 marijuana plants. **Snoddy** participated in this manufacturing marijuana conspiracy by providing financial resources for its construction as well as providing the generator for its operation.

On February 2, 2006, three months after the search warrant was executed, **Snoddy** was arrested near the underground grow operation with approximately 2.633 kilograms of marijuana, worth at least \$92,880.00 on the street. This marijuana was concealed in a hidden compartment of a canoe which was strapped to the top of the white Jeep he was driving. When arrested, **Snoddy** identified himself as Charles Lawrence. However, after his fingerprints were processed and run, it was determined that his name was Dale Snoddy.

Snoddy's co-conspirators and co-defendants in this case, **Cecil Sherman Hume, Jr., Gary Wayne Bullington** and **Trudy Elliott Jackson** also pled guilty to the charges against them and are scheduled to be sentenced on December 14, 2006 and February 1, 2007.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura L. Hall and was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Kentucky State Police as well as the Kentucky National Guard, who assisted in the execution of the search warrant.

## DLH:LLH:sch:061117